

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS.

Monday, April 3. 1665.

The Contents.

Extract of a Letter written from Rome, concerning the late Comet, and a New one. Extract of another Letter from Paris, containing some Reflexions on the precedent Roman Letter. An Observation concerning some particulars, further considerable in the Monster, that was mention'd in the first Papers of these Philosophical Transactions. Extract of a Letter written from Venice, concerning the Mines of Mercury in Friuly. Some Observations, made in the ordering of Silk-worms. An Account of Mr. Hooks Micrographia, or the Physiological descriptions of Minute Bodies, made by Magnifying Glasses.

Extract of a Letter, lately written from Rome, touching the late Comet, and a New one.



Cannot enough wonder at the strange agreement of the thoughts of that acute French Gentleman, Monsieur *Auzout*, in the *Hypothesis* of the Comets motion, with mine; and particularly, at that of the *Tables*. I have with the same method, whereby I find the motion of this Comet, easily found the Principle of that Author's *Ephemerides*, which he then thought not fit to declare; and 'tis this, that this Comet moves about the *Great Dog*, in so great a Circle, that that portion, which is described,

bed , is exceeding small in respect of the whole circumference thereof, and hardly distinguishable by us from a streight line.

Concerning the New Comet you mention, I saw it on the 11. of *February*, about the 24. deg. of *Aries*, with a Northern latitude of 24. deg. 40. min. The cloudy weather hath not yet permitted me to see it in *Andromeda*, as others affirm to have done.

Extract of a Letter , written from Paris , containing some Reflections on part of the precedent Roman Letter.

As to the *Hypothesis* of *Georg. Domenico Cassini*, touching the motion of the *Comet* about the *Great Dog* in a Circle, whose Centre is in a streight line drawn from the Earth thorough the said Star, I believe it will shortly be publish'd in print, as a thought I lighted upon in discoursing with one of my Friends, who did maintain, that it turned about a Centre, because that its *Perigee* had been over against the *Great Dog*, as I had noted in my *Ephemerides*. This particular I did long since declare to many of my acquaintance, whereof some or other will certainly do me that right, as to let the world know it by the Press. I have added an Observation, which I find not, that Signior *Cassini* hath made, *viz.* that there was ground to think, that the *Comet* of 1652. was the same with the present, seeing that, besides the parity of the swiftness of its motion, the *Perigee* thereof was also over against the *Great Dog*, if the Observations extant thereof, deceive not. But, to make it out, what ground I had for these thoughts, I said, that if they were true, the *Comet* must needs accomplish its revolution from 12. to 12. years, or thereabout. But, seeing it appears not by History, that a *Comet* hath been seen at those determinate distances of time, nor that over against the *Perigee* of all the other *Comets*, whereof particular observations are recorded, are alwaies found Stars of the first Magnitude, or such others, as are very notable, besides other reasons, that might be alleged, I shall not pursue this speculation; but rather suggest